

The Trump Administration’s Public Charge Rule Could Impact 188,000 People in the Land of Enchantment

The Trump Administration has finalized its “public charge” rule, which would make it more difficult for immigrants to obtain a green card if they use any of a wide range of public benefits. If litigation does not prevent the rule from taking effect, the policy would become effective in **60 days on Tuesday, October 15, 2019**. The public charge rule would make—and has already made—immigrant families afraid to seek programs for which they are eligible and that help them stay strong, productive, and raise children who thrive.

By threatening immigration status when immigrants use programs to meet their family’s basic needs, the rule would make immigrant families in New Mexico afraid to access programs—like health care and food assistance—that support essential needs. This fact sheet describes the potentially chilled population in the Land of Enchantment, including several counties facing the greatest impact.



NEW MEXICO

Approximately **188,000 people**, including **70,000 children**, may be impacted.



NATIONWIDE

Approximately **26 million people**, including **9.2 million children**, may be impacted.

NEW MEXICO COUNTY FACING THE GREATEST IMPACT

County	Total Population	Estimated Number of Potentially Impacted	Estimated Share of County Population
Bernalillo	675,000	64,000	9%

Source: 2012-2016 5-Year American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (ACS/PUMS); 2012-2016 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS) estimates accessed via American FactFinder. Custom Tabulations by Manatt Health, 9/30/2018. Calculation of potentially chilled population based on families with at least one non-citizen and earned income under 250% of the federal poverty line.

Full methodology and additional data, including breakdowns by demographic factors, available at:

<https://www.manatt.com/Insights/Articles/2018/Public-Charge-Rule-Potentially-Chilled-Population>

To learn more about the rule, how to prepare, and fight back, visit

ProtectingImmigrantFamilies.org. For more information, contact Renato Rocha (rrocha@clasp.org) or David Kallick (ddkallick@fiscalpolicy.org).